

CUSTOMER NO.: 38107

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)	Examiner: B. WILSON
WITTENBER, et al.)	
)	Art Unit: 2612
Serial No.: 10/598,063)	
)	Confirmation: 9776
Filed: August 17, 2006)	
)	
For: METHOD AND)	
ASSOCIATED SYSTEM)	
FOR WIRELESS)	
MEDICAL MONITORING)	
AND PATIENT)	
MONITORING DEVICE)	
)	
Date of Last Office Action:)	
July 7, 2009)	
)	
Attorney Docket No.:)	Cleveland, OH 44114
PKRZ 2 01407/ PHUS040028US2)	December 3, 2009

APPEAL BRIEF

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is an Appeal from the Final Rejection of July 7, 2009.

A Notice of Appeal and fee were filed October 7, 2009.

The Appeal Brief submission fee is being submitted herewith.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I certify that this Appeal Brief and accompanying documents in connection with U.S. Serial No. 10/598,063 are being filed on the date indicated below by electronic transmission with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the electronic filing system (EFS-Web).

Dec 03 2009

Date

Patricia A Heim

Patricia A. Heim

TABLE OF CONTENTS

(i)	REAL PARTY IN INTEREST.....	1
(ii)	RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES	2
(iii)	STATUS OF CLAIMS.....	3
(iv)	STATUS OF AMENDMENTS	4
(v)	SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER	5
(vi)	GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL	10
(vii)	ARGUMENT.....	11
A.	Claims 1-11 Are Not Anticipated By and Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record.....	11
B.	Claim 3 Distinguishes Patentably Over the References of Record	11
C.	Claim 6 Distinguishes Patentably Over the References of Record	12
D.	Claims 8-10 Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record.....	12
E.	Claim 11 Distinguishes Patentably Over the References of Record	13
F.	Claims 16 and 21-23 Are Not Anticipated By and Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record.....	13
G.	Claim 24 Is Not Anticipated By West.....	14
H.	Claim 25 Distinguishes Patentably Over West and Gum.....	14
(viii)	CONCLUSION.....	16
(ix)	CLAIMS APPENDIX	17
(x)	EVIDENCE APPENDIX	22
(xi)	RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX.....	23

(i) REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The Real Party in Interest is the Assignee, KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS, N.V.

(ii) RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

None

(iii) STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-11, 16, and 21-25 are pending in this application

Claims 1-11, 16, and 21-25 stand rejected.

No claims have been allowed or confirmed.

Claims 12-15 and 17-20 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-11, 16, and 21-25 are being appealed.

(iv) STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments have been filed subsequent to the Final Rejection.

(v) SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

1. A method for paging/finding a wireless patient-monitoring device {110, 115} in a wireless local area network (WLAN) network, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a status of a radio module (RM) {116} of one or more wireless monitoring devices {110, 115} comprising one of a Patient-Wearable Device (PWD) {115} and a Patient-Monitoring Device (PMD) {110}, the wireless monitor devices {110, 115} being configured for dual-communication with one or more Access Points (AP) {104} and a central-monitoring station {105} in a WLAN, wherein an overall status of the PWD/PMD {110, 115} comprises one of a plurality of meta-states {p. 8, l. 3-11; p. 10, l. 8-10};

(b) selecting a particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} for receipt of wireless transmission of a signal for changing a meta-state of the device to a desired state if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} is not in the desired state {p. 8, l. 12-21; p. 10, l. 13-15}; and,

(c) activating an audial-code function of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} by transmitting an instruction signal to the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} to emit a predetermined first audial-code that can be heard at least by a patient being monitored by the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} {p. 8, l. 21-21; p. 10, l. 16-23}.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) causes the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} to emit a specific tone which provides an instruction for the patient to contact a nurse {p. 9, l. 4-11}.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) causes the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} to play a prerecorded/preprogrammed message to the patient {p. 9, l. 4-11}.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) comprises a page/find function comprising a second audial code played by the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} wherein said second audial code is of a volume

sufficient to permit personnel that are unaware of the wireless device's {110, 115} location to locate the wireless device {110, 115} by listening for the second audial code {p. 9, l. 4-11}.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein determining of the status in step (a) of an RM {116} of one or more wireless devices {110, 115} occurs by polling the one or more Access Points {104} via unicasting {p. 8, l. 3-11}.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein determining of the status in step (a) of an RM {116} of one PWD/PMD {110, 115} occurs by polling the one or more Access Points {104} via point of call (PIC) based broadcasting {p. 8, l. 3-11}.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the RM {116} of one or more PWD/PMDs {110, 115} uses a Wireless Medical Telemetry System WLAN digital enhanced cordless telecommunication (DECT)-based protocol {p. 5, l. 7-10}.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the overall status of the plurality of meta-states of the PWD/PMD {110, 115} in step (a) includes operational, standby, sleep, active, locked, seeking, inactive, PIC-associated, PIC-unassociated, PIC-connected, PIC-Unconnected, AP-associated, AP-unassociated, active timing, and inactive timing {p. 6, l. 1-13}.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the meta-state in step (b) of the RM {116} of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} is changed to an active state {p. 8, l. 12-21; p. 9, l. 19-27}.

10. The method according to claim 8, wherein the meta-states further include: Internet Protocol (IP)-aware, IP-unaware, booting and rebooting {p. 6, l. 1-13}.

11. The method according to claim 7, wherein the PWD/PMD {110, 115} periodically broadcasts the status to the one or more Access Points {104} if the

device {110, 115} has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time {p. 9, l. 19-27; p. 10, l. 1-6}.

16. The system according to claim 21, wherein the central station {105} and the plurality of APs {104} poll a status of the PWD/PMD {110, 115} via a PIC based broadcast {p. 8, l. 3-11}.

21. A page/find system for wireless medical monitoring devices {110, 115} comprising:

a central-monitoring station {105} configured for bi-directional-communication with a plurality of access points {104} or one or more wireless monitoring devices {110, 115} in a wireless local area network (WLAN) {p. 5, l. 1-19; p. 9, l. 12-18; FIG. 1};

the one or more wireless monitoring devices {110, 115} comprising at least one of a patient-wearable device (PWD) {115} and a patient-monitoring device (PMD) {110}, the monitoring devices {110, 115} having a plurality of meta-states and configured to communicate bi-directionally with the access points {104} {p. 6, l. 1-13; p. 8, l. 3-11; p. 10, l. 8-10; FIG. 1};

wherein the one or more wireless monitoring devices {110, 115} comprise a radio module (RM) {116} configured to communicate with at least one of the central-monitoring station {105} or the access points {104} {p. 7, l. 21-26; p. 8, l. 1-11};

wherein the central-monitoring station {105} is configured to select a particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} for receipt of a wireless transmission of a change meta-state signal to change the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} to a desired state to send the change meta-state transmission and a page/find signal to the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} {p. 8, l. 12-21; p. 9, l. 19-27; p. 10, l. 13-15}; and

wherein the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} is configured to receive the change meta-state signal and change the meta-state of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} is not in the desired state and to receive the page/find signal and to activate the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} to emit an audio signal in response to the received page/find message {p. 8, l. 21-21; p. 9, l. 4-11; p. 10, l. 16-23}.

22. The system according to claim 21, wherein the audio signal emitted by the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} comprises a tone or message that indicates to call a nurse or medical personnel {p. 9, l. 4-11}.

23. The system according to claim 21, wherein the audio signal is sufficiently loud enough to permit personnel within a facility to locate the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} {p. 9, l. 4-11}.

24. A patient monitoring device {110, 115} comprising:
a radio module {116} configured for dual-communication with at least one of a central monitoring stations {105} or a plurality of access points {104} {p. 7, l. 21-26; p. 8, l. 1-11};

a processor configured to determine a meta-state of the radio module {116} of the monitoring device {110, 115} and upon reception of a change meta-state signal transmitted from the at least one of a central monitoring stations {105} or a plurality of access points {104} change the meta-state of the monitoring device {110, 115} in accordance with the change meta-state signal {p. 6, l. 1-13; p. 7, l. 21-26; p. 8, l. 1-11; p. 10, l. 7-23};

wherein the processor comprises an audial-code function configured to activate an audio activation signal upon reception of a page/find message transmitted from at least one of a central monitoring stations {105} or a plurality of access points {104} {p. 9, l. 4-11}; and

a speaker {113} to emit a audio signal upon reception of the audio activation signal {p. 9, l. 4-11}.

25. A method for paging/finding a wireless patient-monitoring device {110, 115} in a wireless local area network (WLAN) network, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a status of a radio module {116} of one or more wireless monitoring devices {110, 115} comprising at least one of a Patient-Wearable Device {115} and a Patient-Monitoring Device {110} (PWD/PMD) configured to communicate bi-directionally with one or more Access Points {104} and a central-

monitoring station {105} in the WLAN, wherein an overall status of the PWD/PMD {110, 115} comprises one of a plurality of meta-states including at least one of operational, standby, sleep, active, and inactive states, and wherein determining the status of the radio module {116} includes polling one or more of the access points {104}{p. 6, l. 1-13; p. 8, l. 3-11; p. 10, l. 8-10};

(b) selecting a particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} for receipt of wireless transmission of a signal for changing a meta-state of the device to the active state if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} is not in the active state {p. 8, l. 12-21; p. 9, l. 19-27; p. 10, l. 13-15};

(c) activating an audial-code function of the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} by transmitting an instruction signal to the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} to emit a predetermined first audial-code that can be heard at least by a patient being monitored by the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115}, the audial code including a page/find function comprising a second audial code played by the particular PWD/PMD {110, 115} wherein said audial code is of a volume sufficient to permit personnel that are unaware of the wireless device's {110, 115} location to locate the wireless device {110, 115} by listening for the second audial code {p. 8, l. 21-21; p. 9, l. 4-11; p. 10, l. 16-23}; and

wherein the PWD/PMD {110, 115} periodically broadcasts the status to the one or more Access Points {104} if the device has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time {p. 9, l. 19-27; p. 10, l. 1-6}.

(vi) GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Whether claims 1, 21, and 24 are anticipated, in the sense of 35 U.S.C. § 102, by West (US 2002/0013517).

Whether claims 2, 3, 5-7, 11, 16, and 22 are obvious, in the sense of 35 U.S.C. § 103, over West as modified by Haller (US 2001/0051787).

Whether claims 4, 23, and 25 are obvious, in the sense of 35 U.S.C. § 103, over West as modified by Gum (US 6,363,247).

Whether claims 8-10 are obvious, in the sense of 35 U.S.C. § 103, over West as modified by Haller, as further modified by IEEE 802.11 STD 1999 Ed.(R2003) Part 11: Wireless Lan Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layout (PHY) Specifications.

(vii) ARGUMENT

A. Claims 1-11 Are Not Anticipated By and Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 1 calls for determining a status of one or more wireless monitoring devices, which status comprises one of a plurality of meta-states. A particular wireless monitoring device is selected for receipt of a wireless transmission signal for changing the meta-state. An instruction signal is sent to the particular device causing it to emit a predetermined audial code that can be heard by the patient.

The Examiner refers the applicant to Figure 2 and paragraphs 38, 56, 73, and 146 which disclose a wireless patient monitor configured to collect patient vital data signs and to transmit the vital signal to a central station. The Examiner asserts in the Final Rejection that the meta-states of West are “connected” and “not connected”. Even if “connected” and “not connected” could be considered a plurality of meta-states, West does not disclose that its central monitoring station determines when a wireless monitoring device is out of communication with a central station, whether a wireless device is connected or not.

Further, West does not disclose that the central monitoring station transmits a signal to change the status of the monitoring device. West does not disclose or fairly suggest sending a signal to change its status. Particularly, West does not suggest transmitting an instruction signal to the patient monitor instructing it to connect to or disconnect from the wireless network. If the device is not connected to the wireless network, West would not be able to send a signal to it to change its state.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 and claims 2-11 dependent therefrom are not anticipated by and distinguish patentably over the references of record.

B. Claim 3 Distinguishes Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 3 calls for the audial prompt to be in the form of a prerecorded/preprogrammed message. The Examiner refers the applicant to paragraph [0169], lines 22-25 of Haller. Paragraph [0169] of Haller calls for

establishing a communication link, but says nothing about using a prerecorded/preprogrammed message.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 3 distinguishes patentably over the references of record.

C. Claim 6 Distinguishes Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 6 calls for the polling one or more access points via point of call (PIC) based broadcasting. Although the Examiner refers the applicant to paragraph [0223] of Haller, paragraph [0223] does not disclose PIC-based broadcasting.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 6 distinguishes patentably over the references of record.

D. Claims 8-10 Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 8 calls for the meta-states to include a long list of states including operational, standby, sleep, active, locked, seeking, inactive, PIC-associated, PIC-unassociated, PIC-connected, PIC-unconnected, AP-associated, AP-unassociated, active timing, and inactive timing. The Examiner refers the applicant to paragraph [0088] of West, which is asserted to disclose several of these meta-states. While paragraph [0088] of West discusses how the network communicates with a monitor, none of the listed states are, in fact, listed in paragraph [0088]. For the meta-states which the Examiner acknowledges are not shown by West or Haller, the Examiner refers the applicant to the IEEE Standards. It is submitted that the IEEE Standards merely disclose how to implement the listed meta-states, but provide no teaching that they should be used or incorporated into West. West does not disclose that the device has a plurality of meta-states, much less the long-list of meta-states required by claim 8. Because the IEEE Standard merely shows the existence of such meta-states without any teaching as to how one could or should modify West to incorporate the list of meta-states required by claim 8.

Claim 10 further increases the list of meta-states.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 8 and claims 9 and 10 dependent therefrom distinguish patentably over the references of record.

E. Claim 11 Distinguishes Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 11 calls for the device to periodically broadcast its status to one or more access points if the device is not been polled by a predetermined amount of time. The Examiner refers the applicant to paragraph [0099] of West. Paragraph [0099] of West discusses reestablishing communication in the event of a loss of communication. However, paragraph [0099] does not teach periodically broadcasting the status if the device has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 11 distinguishes patentably over the references of record.

F. Claims 16 and 21-23 Are Not Anticipated By and Distinguish Patentably Over the References of Record

Claim 21 calls for the patient wearable devices to have a plurality of meta-states. Claim 21 further calls for the wireless monitoring device to receive both a change meta-state signal and a page/find signal. In response to the change meta-state signal, a current state of the device is changed. In response to the page/find signal, the monitoring device emits an audio signal. As with the rejection of claim 1, the Examiner refers the applicant to sections of West which are concerned with reestablishing communication between a device and the network. Again, when the device of West is out of range or otherwise disconnected from the network, it is unable to receive signals from the network to change its connection status. The wireless device of West is not disclosed as receiving a signal that causes it to change between connected and not connected. The audible notification in paragraph [0073] of West referenced by the Examiner is a low or dead battery signal and is not in response to receiving a page/find signal. Paragraph [0083] of West referenced by the Examiner calls for the device to issue an alarm if the vital signs data violates certain alarm conditions. Thus, this alarm of West is triggered by the patient data monitored by the device and not by a page/find signal from exterior to the device.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 21 and claims 16, 22, and 23 dependent therefrom are not anticipated by and distinguish patentably over the references of record.

G. Claim 24 Is Not Anticipated By West

Claim 24 calls for a processor which determines a meta-state of the radio module of the monitoring device. The Examiner refers the applicant to paragraphs [0145]-[0146] of West. However, these paragraphs do not disclose that the processor determines a meta-state of a radio module. Rather, these paragraphs relate to restoring the connection when the connection the monitor and the network drops out. The Examiner also refers the applicant to paragraph [0137]. However, paragraph [0137] does not relate to changing meta-states. Rather, paragraph [0137] relates to controlling the functions performed by the monitor, such as the type of ECG data to be collected.

Claim 24 further calls for the processor to activate an audio activation signal upon receipt of a page/find message transmitted from the central monitoring station or one of the access points. The Examiner refers the applicant to paragraphs [0073] and [0083] of West. Paragraph [0073], by distinction, discloses a low battery alarm. Paragraph [0083], by distinction, discloses an alarm in response to the monitored vital signs being outside of a selected range.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 24 is not anticipated by West.

H. Claim 25 Distinguishes Patentably Over West and Gum

Claim 25 calls for determining a status of a radio module of one or more wireless devices which have a plurality of meta-states. Determining the status of the radio module includes polling one or more of the access points. The Examiner refers the applicant to Figure 24, item 540 of West. However, Figure 24, item 540 only detects a loss of communication and does not include polling the access points to determine which of the plurality of meta-states the patient wearable device is in.

West does not disclose a central monitoring station that determines the status of the patient monitors. Rather, West merely determines whether the signal has been lost.

Claim 25 further calls for selecting one of the devices to receive a wireless transmission of a signal for changing the meta-state of the device to the active state if it is currently in an inactive state. In West, when communication between the central station and the individual devices has been lost, the central station cannot contact the individual device that is not in communication. Moreover, when the device is not in communication with the network, it is not a change of state of the device in the sense of the active state discussed in claim 25. Rather, it is submitted that in West, the device continues collecting data and continues function as a monitor really storing the data until it can reestablish communications with the network and download it.

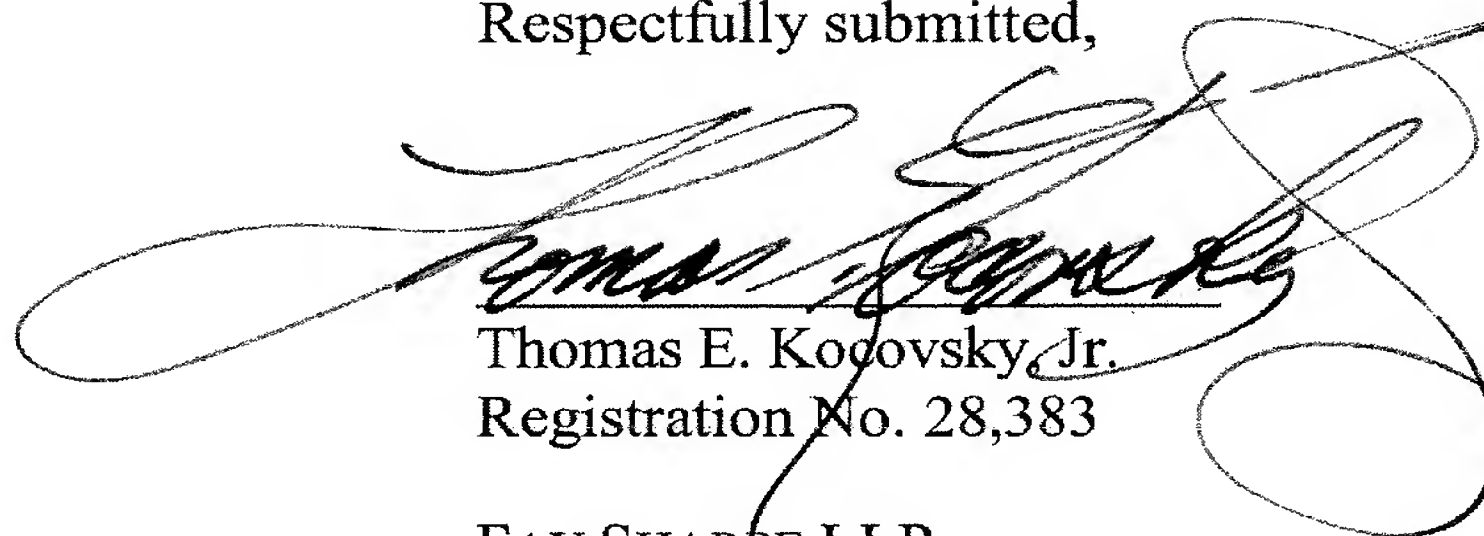
Gum is not cited as curing any of these shortcomings of West and, indeed, does not.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 25 distinguishes patentably and unobviously over the references of record.

(viii) CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that none of claims are anticipated by West and that all claims distinguish patentably and unobviously over the references of record. An early reversal of all of the Examiner's rejections is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas E. Kocovsky, Jr.
Registration No. 28,383

FAY SHARPE LLP
The Halle Building, 5th Floor
1228 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115-1843
Telephone: 216.363.9000 (main)
Telephone: 216.363.9122 (direct)
Facsimile: 216.363.9001
E-Mail: tkocovsky@faysharpe.com

L:\HMM\DATA\2009\PKRZ201407.APBREF.DOC

(ix) CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (Rejected) A method for paging/finding a wireless patient-monitoring device in a wireless local area network (WLAN) network, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a status of a radio module (RM) of one or more wireless monitoring devices comprising one of a Patient-Wearable Device (PWD) and a Patient-Monitoring Device (PMD), the wireless monitor devices being configured for dual-communication with one or more Access Points (AP) and a central-monitoring station in a WLAN, wherein an overall status of the PWD/PMD comprises one of a plurality of meta-states;

(b) selecting a particular PWD/PMD for receipt of wireless transmission of a signal for changing a meta-state of the device to a desired state if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD is not in the desired state; and,

(c) activating an audial-code function of the particular PWD/PMD by transmitting an instruction signal to the particular PWD/PMD to emit a predetermined first audial-code that can be heard at least by a patient being monitored by the particular PWD/PMD.

2. (Rejected) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) causes the particular PWD/PMD to emit a specific tone which provides an instruction for the patient to contact a nurse.

3. (Rejected) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) causes the particular PWD/PMD to play a prerecorded/preprogrammed message to the patient.

4. (Rejected) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) comprises a page/find function comprising a second audial code played by the particular PWD/PMD wherein said second audial code is of a volume sufficient to permit personnel that are unaware of the wireless device's location to locate the wireless device by listening for the second audial code.

5. (Rejected) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining of the status in step (a) of an RM of one or more wireless devices occurs by polling the one or more Access Points via unicasting.

6. (Rejected) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining of the status in step (a) of an RM of one PWD/PMD occurs by polling the one or more Access Points via point of call (PIC) based broadcasting.

7. (Rejected) The method according to claim 1, wherein the RM of one or more PWD/PMDs uses a Wireless Medical Telemetry System WLAN digital enhanced cordless telecommunication (DECT)-based protocol.

8. (Rejected) The method according to claim 7, wherein the overall status of the plurality of meta-states of the PWD/PMD in step (a) includes operational, standby, sleep, active, locked, seeking, inactive, PIC-associated, PIC-unassociated, PIC-connected, PIC-Unconnected, AP-associated, AP-unassociated, active timing, and inactive timing.

9. (Rejected) The method according to claim 8, wherein the meta-state in step (b) of the RM of the particular PWD/PMD is changed to an active state.

10. (Rejected) The method according to claim 8, wherein the meta-states further include: Internet Protocol (IP)-aware, IP-unaware, booting and rebooting.

11. (Rejected) The method according to claim 7, wherein the PWD/PMD periodically broadcasts the status to the one or more Access Points if the device has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time.

12-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Rejected) The system according to claim 21, wherein the central station and the plurality of APs poll a status of the PWD/PMD via a PIC based broadcast.

17-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Rejected) A page/find system for wireless medical monitoring devices comprising:

a central-monitoring station configured for bi-directional-communication with a plurality of access points or one or more wireless monitoring devices in a wireless local area network (WLAN);

the one or more wireless monitoring devices comprising at least one of a patient-wearable device (PWD) and a patient-monitoring device (PMD), the monitoring devices having a plurality of meta-states and configured to communicate bi-directionally with the access points;

wherein the one or more wireless monitoring devices comprise a radio module (RM) configured to communicate with at least one of the central-monitoring station or the access points;

wherein the central-monitoring station is configured to select a particular PWD/PMD for receipt of a wireless transmission of a change meta-state signal to change the particular PWD/PMD to a desired state to send the change meta-state transmission and a page/find signal to the particular PWD/PMD; and

wherein the particular PWD/PMD is configured to receive the change meta-state signal and change the meta-state of the particular PWD/PMD if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD is not in the desired state and to receive the page/find signal and to activate the particular PWD/PMD to emit an audio signal in response to the received page/find message.

22. (Rejected) The system according to claim 21, wherein the audio signal emitted by the particular PWD/PMD comprises a tone or message that indicates to call a nurse or medical personnel.

23. (Rejected) The system according to claim 21, wherein the audio signal is sufficiently loud enough to permit personnel within a facility to locate the particular PWD/PMD.

24. (Rejected) A patient monitoring device comprising:
a radio module configured for dual-communication with at least one of a central monitoring stations or a plurality of access points;
a processor configured to determine a meta-state of the radio module of the monitoring device and upon reception of a change meta-state signal transmitted from the at least one of a central monitoring stations or a plurality of access points change the meta-state of the monitoring device in accordance with the change meta-state signal;
wherein the processor comprises an audial-code function configured to activate an audio activation signal upon reception of a page/find message transmitted from at least one of a central monitoring stations or a plurality of access points; and
a speaker to emit a audio signal upon reception of the audio activation signal.

25. (Rejected) A method for paging/finding a wireless patient-monitoring device in a wireless local area network (WLAN) network, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a status of a radio module of one or more wireless monitoring devices comprising at least one of a Patient-Wearable Device and a Patient-Monitoring Device (PWD/PMD) configured to communicate bi-directionally with one or more Access Points and a central-monitoring station in the WLAN, wherein an overall status of the PWD/PMD comprises one of a plurality of meta-states including at least one of operational, standby, sleep, active, and inactive states, and wherein determining the status of the radio module includes polling one or more of the access points;

(b) selecting a particular PWD/PMD for receipt of wireless transmission of a signal for changing a meta-state of the device to the active state if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD is not in the active state;

(c) activating an audial-code function of the particular PWD/PMD by transmitting an instruction signal to the particular PWD/PMD to emit a predetermined first audial-code that can be heard at least by a patient being monitored by the particular PWD/PMD, the audial code including a page/find function comprising a second audial code played by the particular PWD/PMD wherein said audial code is of a volume sufficient to permit personnel that are unaware of the wireless device's location to locate the wireless device by listening for the second audial code; and

wherein the PWD/PMD periodically broadcasts the status to the one or more Access Points if the device has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time.

(x) EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None

(xi) RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None